MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS 1 WINTER STREET BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION REGION I BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) **PERMIT** AND OF A **PUBLIC HEARING** CONCERNING COOLING WATER WITHDRAWALS FROM, AND DISCHARGES OF POLLUTANTS TO, THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTIONS 301, 316(b) AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (THE "ACT"), AS AMENDED.

DATE OF NOTICE: July 10, 2009

PERMIT NUMBER: MA0040371

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: MA-033-09

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Russell Biomass, LLC 101 Hampton Road Pomfret Center, CT 06259

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Russell Biomass, LLC Station Road Russell, MA 01071

RECEIVING WATER: Westfield River

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: Class B

PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) have cooperated in the development of a permit for the above identified facility. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted to assure that State Water Quality Standards and provisions of the Clean Water Act will be met. EPA has formally requested that the State certify this draft permit pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and expects that the draft permit will be certified.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

A fact sheet (describing the type of facility; type and quantities of wastes; the basis for the draft permit conditions; and significant factual, legal and policy questions considered in preparing this draft permit) and the draft permit may be obtained at no cost http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft permits listing ma.html or by writing or calling EPA's contact person named below:

Sharon DeMeo
U.S. EPA
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100 (CIP)
Boston, MA 02114-2023
Telephone: (617) 918-1995

The administrative record containing all documents relating to this draft permit is on file and may be inspected at the EPA Boston office mentioned above between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Regional Administrator has determined, pursuant to 40 C.F.R.§124.12, that a significant degree of public interest exists in the proposed draft permit and that a public hearing should be held to consider this action. Accordingly, a public hearing has been scheduled. In addition, EPA will hold a public informational meeting on the permit immediately prior to the public hearing. The dates, times and location of the public informational meeting and the public hearing are as follows:

DATE: August 13, 2009

TIME: Public Informational Meeting: 6:30pm - 7:00pm

Public Hearing: 7:00pm

LOCATION: Russell Elementary School Auditorium/Gym

155 Highland Avenue Russell, MA 01071

If for any reason the scheduled location and/or time of the public hearing changes, Region 1 will republish this notice with the change(s).

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §124.12, the following is a summary of the procedures that shall be followed at the public hearing:

- a. The Presiding Officer shall have the authority to open and conclude the hearing and to maintain order; and
- b. Any person appearing at such a hearing may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit modification.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of this draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by **August 18, 2009**, to the U.S. EPA, 1 Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION:

Following the close of the comment period and after the public hearing, the Regional Administrator will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice.

GLENN HAAS, DIRECTOR DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

KEN MORAFF, ACTING DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1